



CITY OF LAS VEGAS

ELECTION 2005

CANDIDATE GUIDE

**Prepared by:
Las Vegas City Clerk's Office**

**Barbara Jo (Roni) Ronemus, City Clerk
January, 2005**



January 2005

Dear Candidate:

Welcome to the 2005 City of Las Vegas Municipal Election process. As Las Vegas City Clerk, I am pleased to provide you with this Candidate Guide for our 2005 Municipal Election. This Guide is intended to provide you with answers to frequently asked questions concerning various aspects of the process.

Article V of the Las Vegas City Charter and Nevada Revised Statutes, where applicable and consistent with the Charter, govern the conduct of elections for the City. Our Municipal Elections are under the control of the Las Vegas City Council.

Should you need additional information, please refer to our City of Las Vegas Voter Guide 2005, our website at www.lasvegasnevada.gov/Election2005, or call us at (702) 229-6311, TTY (702) 386-9108. The City Clerk's Office is located at Las Vegas City Hall, 400 Stewart Ave., First Floor, Las Vegas, Nevada 89101.

Should you have specific voter registration questions, please contact our office or the Clark County Registrar of Voters. Please see the "Contact Information" page found in this Guide and the maps for locating the City Clerk's Office, and the Clark County Registrar of Voters' Election Center and Election Department Offices.

Our duty to you, as candidate and voter, is to provide a fair and impartial election process that is responsive to all eligible citizens in exercising their right to vote. We encourage your active participation. Your comments and suggestions are always welcome.

Sincerely,

Barbara Jo (Roni) Ronemus, CMC
Las Vegas City Clerk

CONTACT INFORMATION

LOCATION	TELEPHONE NUMBERS
Las Vegas City Clerk Las Vegas City Hall 400 Stewart Ave., First Floor Las Vegas, Nevada 89101	(702) 229-6311 (702) 382-4803, Fax (702) 386-9108, TTY
E-mail address: Election2005@lasvegasnevada.gov Election Website: http://www.lasvegasnevada.gov/Election2005	

LOCATION	TELEPHONE NUMBERS
Clark County Registrar of Voters Election Center 965 Trade Dr., Suite A North Las Vegas, Nevada 89030	(702) 455-VOTE (8683) (702) 455-3666, Español (702) 455-6480, TTY
Election Department Clark County Government Center 500 S. Grand Central Parkway, First Floor Las Vegas, Nevada 89106	
E-mail address: elinfo@co.clark.nv.us Election Website: http://www.co.clark.nv.us/election	

LOCATION	TELEPHONE NUMBERS
State of Nevada, Secretary of State Elections Division 101 North Carson St., Suite 3 Carson City, Nevada 89701	(775) 684-5705 or (800) 992-0900 (775) 684-5718, Fax
E-mail address: nvelect@govmail.state.nv.us Website: http://www.sos.state.nv.us/	

LOCATION	TELEPHONE NUMBERS
State of Nevada Commission on Ethics 3476 Executive Pointe Way, Suite 16 Carson City, Nevada 89706-7946	(775) 687-5469 or (800) 992-0900 (775) 687-1279, Fax (702) 486-3000, Las Vegas
E-mail address: ncoe@ethics.state.nv.us Website: http://ethics.state.nv.us/	

WELCOME TO LAS VEGAS CITY GOVERNMENT

The City of Las Vegas was incorporated on March 16, 1911, and until 1944, operated under a "commission" form of government with each commissioner having administrative control over certain operating departments of the city. Since January 1, 1944, the City of Las Vegas has operated under what is commonly known as a "council/manager" form of government. This form of government was approved by a vote of the people with subsequent Las Vegas City Charter adoption by the Legislature.

Until 1975, the voters of the city at large elected the mayor and four city councilmen. A vote of the people in June of 1973 approved a City Charter amendment dividing the city into four wards. This allowed the mayor to be elected at large and each councilman to be elected by the voters of his or her own ward. The City Charter amendment was subsequently adopted by the legislature with the first election by ward held in 1975. The elected officials chose to use the title "commissioner" until 1983 when a new City Charter approved by the legislature changed their title to "councilman."

A vote of the people in 1999 approved an advisory ballot question to divide the city into six wards. Anticipating a favorable vote, the State Legislature and City Council had previously passed enabling legislation permitting the expansion to six wards. As of January 1, 2000, the change to six wards became effective.

The citizens elect the mayor and six council members who comprise the "City Council." Their terms are four years with elections staggered every two years.

MAYOR:

The mayor serves as a member of the City Council, presides as chairman over its meetings, performs ceremonial duties and is the chief executive officer of the city. The mayor serves as the official representative of the people in all matters and officially signs enactments of the City Council. One of the council members is elected by the City Council to serve as mayor pro tempore to act during the absence of the mayor.

CITY COUNCIL:

The City Council, including the mayor, is the governing body of the city and exercises legislative power by enacting ordinances, resolutions, orders and other policies necessary for the management and execution of the powers vested in the city through the City Charter. Among other things, the City Council is empowered to:

- Appoint the city manager and approve the appointment by the manager of the department heads, their assistants and other city staff.
- Adopt an annual budget.
- Act as the Redevelopment Agency.
- Enact and provide for the enforcement of all laws and ordinances.
- May acquire, sell and lease buildings and property.
- Enter into contracts, agreements, franchises, etc.
- License and regulate all businesses, trades and professions.
- Organize, regulate and maintain a fire department.
- Protect the public health.
- Enact and enforce building and safety codes.
- Provide for the zoning, subdivision and use of private land and buildings.
- Provide for traffic control.
- Provide for the abatement, prevention and removal of nuisances.

- Establish and appoint citizens to serve on City of Las Vegas boards - Planning Commission, Civil Service Board, Child Care Licensing Board, Arts Commission, Historic Preservation Commission, to name just a few.
- Also, members of the City Council serve on various boards - Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority, Regional Transportation Commission, Regional Flood Control, District Board of Health, Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce, Metropolitan Police Committee on Fiscal Affairs, etc.

CITY ATTORNEY:

The City Attorney is appointed by the City Council and provides legal guidance and support for elected city officials, city departments, and boards and commissions in conducting city business. The office represents the city before judicial and administrative agencies in civil litigation proceedings and prosecutes all traffic and misdemeanor violations occurring within the limits of the city of Las Vegas. The City Attorney's Office also provides legal guidance to city departments, board and commission members and elected officials concerning matters that may present a conflict of interest.

CITY AUDITOR:

The City Auditor's Office operates under the direction of the City Council. The Mayor, subject to ratification by the City Council, appoints the City Auditor. The City Auditor is responsible for directing audit professionals in a comprehensive audit program including performance audits, compliance audits, special audits, information systems audits, and financial audits. The City Council created an Audit Committee to review and evaluate the internal audit activities. The Committee is appointed by the Mayor and is comprised of two City Council members and three members of the community-at-large.

CITY MANAGER:

The City Manager is appointed by the City Council and is responsible for the effective administration and operation of all municipal services for the city of Las Vegas. The City Manager (1) supervises the city's general affairs, (2) exercises control over all of the departments and divisions of city government and over all of the officers and employees of the city, (3) gives the City Council information concerning the state of the city and recommends the adoption of bills and programs that he deems are necessary and appropriate, (4) submits the annual budget of the city to the City Council, (5) ensures that all general laws and ordinances of the city are observed and enforced, (6) ensures that all contracts of the city are faithfully kept and fully performed, (7) executes contracts and other documents of which are delegated to him by the City Council, and (8) performs administrative duties that are designated by the City Council or prescribed by ordinance.

CITY CHARTER:

The State Legislature adopted the City Charter on January 1, 1944, which established a Council-Manager form of government for the city of Las Vegas. The Charter establishes the municipal government empowered by NRS 268 and is a part of the Las Vegas Municipal Code. Charter change can only occur by Nevada legislative action or a vote of the people. It is to the city what the Constitution is to state and federal governments. To access the City Charter and the municipal code, go to the City's Web site, select "departments" and then "municipal code."

CITY OF LAS VEGAS WEB SITE:

The city of Las Vegas' Web site is www.lasvegasnevada.gov. The Web site is tailored for citizens, businesses, visitors and new residents and offers a translation service for Spanish-speakers. Information on all aspects of city government, including details by department, is available on the Web site, and e-services are available, including paying parking tickets online.

WELCOME TO LAS VEGAS MUNICIPAL COURT

Per an act of the Nevada State Legislature, approved March 16, 1911, relative to the incorporation of the City of Las Vegas, the first Municipal Court judge was appointed by the Las Vegas City Commission on June 22, 1911. A single Municipal Court judge presided until 1969 when the City Commission appointed an additional judge for Department 2. In 1975, by ordinance, Department 3 was established with Department 4 being added in 1977. To further serve our growing community, the City Council created Departments 5 and 6 in 1989 and 1991 respectively.

The citizens elect the judges at large by department number. Each judge presides over his or her respective department. In 2001, the Nevada State Legislature increased the judicial terms from four to six years.

The qualifications for Municipal Court judge are:

- Shall devote full time to the duties of his or her office.
- Duly licensed member in good standing of the State Bar of Nevada.
- Never have been removed or retired from any judicial office by the Commission on Judicial Discipline.
- Qualified elector who has resided within the city for a period of not less than 30 days immediately before the last day for filing a declaration for candidacy.
- Voted upon by the registered voters of the city at large.

The Municipal Court of the City of Las Vegas became a Court of Record on December 1, 1995.

ALTERNATE JUDGES:

The mayor of the City of Las Vegas appoints alternate judges in sufficient numbers yearly. An alternate court judge:

- Must be a duly licensed member in good standing of the State Bar of Nevada.
- Never have been removed or retired from any judicial office by the Commission on Judicial Discipline.
- Must be a resident of the city.
- Has all the powers and jurisdiction of a municipal judge while he is acting as such.

MARSHALS:

Each department of the Las Vegas Municipal Court is allotted a court marshal to assist in the operation of the Municipal Court. These marshals are under direct supervision of the respective Municipal Court judge of the department to which they are assigned.

CITY OFFICES AND FILING INFORMATION 2005

Municipal elections are OPEN and NONPARTISAN. That means, candidates' political parties do not appear on the ballot. You must be a properly registered voter of the city of Las Vegas to vote in this special election and you may vote regardless of your party affiliation.

Las Vegas City Charter provides that if, in the Primary City Election, one candidate for an office receives more than a majority of votes cast, they are declared elected and no General City Election is held. If no candidate for that office receives a majority of votes, the names of the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes are placed on the ballot for the General City Election. Therefore, **YOUR PRIMARY ELECTION VOTE IS VERY IMPORTANT!**

The term of office for each council ward is four years. The 2001 Nevada State Legislature expanded the term of office for the city's municipal judge positions from four to six years, which commenced in the 2003 election cycle.

The City's Primary Election will be held on Tuesday, April 5, 2005 and the General Election, if required, will be held on Tuesday, June 7, 2005. Offices for election are:

COUNCILMAN WARD 2 – 4 Year Term

Salary: \$42,596

Incumbent: Steve Wolfson

COUNCILMAN WARD 4 – 4 Year Term

Salary: \$42,596

Incumbent: Larry Brown

COUNCILMAN WARD 6 – 4 Year Term

Salary: \$42,596

Incumbent: Michael Mack

MUNICIPAL JUDGE DEPARTMENT 2 - 6 Year Term

Elected At Large

Salary: \$128,098

Incumbent: Betsy Kolkowski

MUNICIPAL JUDGE DEPARTMENT 3 – 6 Year Term

Elected At Large

Salary: \$128,098

Incumbent: George Assad

MUNICIPAL JUDGE DEPARTMENT 5 – 6 Year Term

Elected At Large

Salary: \$128,098

Incumbent: Cedric Kerns

Filing Fee:

\$100.00 (cash, check, certified check or money order accepted)

When to File:

January 25, 2005, 8 a.m. - Filing for office begins

February 4, 2005, 5 p.m. - Filing for office closes

Where to File:

Las Vegas City Clerk's Office
400 Stewart Ave., First Floor, City Hall
(702) 229-6311, TTY (702) 386-9108

What to Bring:

Identification by one of the following:

(1) a valid driver's license or identification card issued by a governmental agency that contains a photograph of the candidate and the candidate's address; or

(2) a current utility bill, bank statement, paycheck, or document issued by a governmental entity, including, without limitation, a check, which indicates the candidate's name and address. When filing for office, a complete filing packet will be provided. This packet will contain all forms, instructions and general information necessary to comply with the requirements of Las Vegas City Charter, Las Vegas Municipal Code, and Nevada Revised Statutes.

Using a nickname on the ballot:

A nickname of not more than 10 letters may be used on the ballot; however, it must be in quotation marks and appear immediately before the candidate's surname. Other provisions apply under NRS 293.2565.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR OFFICE

Candidates shall be a qualified elector* who has actually*, as opposed to constructively, resided within their respective Ward for a Councilman or the City of Las Vegas for a Municipal Judge for a period of not less than 30 days immediately prior to the last day for filing a Declaration of Candidacy.

*A qualified elector is a citizen of the United States, 18 years of age or older, who satisfied any residency requirement for this election and is not otherwise disqualified by reason of a treason or felony conviction or insanity, unless their civil rights have been restored by a court of competent jurisdiction.

Please note that if, upon receipt of credible evidence indicating that a candidate has been convicted of a felony and has not had his civil rights restored by a court of competent jurisdiction, filing officers may pursue removing the individual from the ballot (NRS 293.177, AB 284).

*"Actual residence" is defined in NRS 281.050 as the place where a person is legally domiciled and maintains a permanent habitation. If the person maintains more than one such habitation, the place the person declares to be his or her principal permanent habitation when filing a declaration pursuant to NRS 293C.185 shall be deemed to be the person's actual residence.

Provisions:

If at 5 p.m. on the last day for filing a Declaration of Candidacy, there is only one candidate for any office, that candidate must be declared elected and no Primary or General City Election may be held for that office.

Elected officials shall qualify and enter upon the discharge of their respective duties on the day of the first regular meeting of the City Council next succeeding the meeting at which the canvass of the returns is made. (City Charter 5.100)

IMPORTANT DATES FOR CANDIDATES

January 5, 2005.

Last day candidate may become a resident.

January 18, 2005, 5 p.m.

Last day for City of Las Vegas elected office holders to file Annual Nevada Contributions & Expenses Report with the City Clerk. NRS 294A.120, NRS 294A.125, NRS .294A.200 and NRS 294A.360.

(The filing date by law is January 15, 2005, but as this day falls on a Saturday and as Monday January 17 is a holiday NRS 293.1275 moves the filing date to the next business day).

January 25, 2005, 8 a.m.

Filing for office begins. NRS 293C.175, Las Vegas City Charter Sec. 5.010. Identification required. NRS 293C.185.

February 4, 2005, 5 p.m.

NRS 293C.175, Las Vegas City Charter Sec. 5.010.

February 4, 2005, 5 p.m.

Last day candidate may change the manner in which his/her name appears on the ballot.

February 8, 2005, 5 p.m.

Last day for candidate to withdraw. Must be in writing and presented to the City Clerk. NRS 293C.195.

February 14, 2005, 5 p.m.

Candidates to file state Financial Disclosure Statement with the Secretary of State. Penalties imposed if not filed by this date. NRS 281.561, NRS 281.581.

February 14, 2005, 5 p.m.

Candidates for Municipal Court Judge to file Judicial Statement of Financial Disclosure with Nevada Supreme Court, Administrative Office of the Courts. Canon 4 I(2)(b).

March 1, 2005.

Last day for organizations to notify the City Clerk of Absent Ballot Request Card mailings for Primary Election if sending to more than 500 registered voters. NRS 293C.306.

March 6 to 15, 2005 (In-Office): Ten-day period for *in-office* registration or updates at your City Clerk's office.

Sunday, March 6 through Thursday, March 10
Las Vegas City Clerk's Office, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Extended Hours - Friday, March 11 through Tuesday, March 15
Las Vegas City Clerk's Office, 8 a.m. to 9 p.m.

March 7, 2005.

First day written voter registration challenges may be filed for Primary Election. NRS 293.547.

March 11, 2005.

Last day written voter registration challenges may be filed for Primary Election. NRS 293.547.

March 15, 2005.

Last day for organizations to mail Absent Ballot Request Card mailings for Primary Election if sending to more than 500 registered voters. NRS 293C.306.

March 19, 2005.

Early voting begins for Primary Election. NRS 293C.3568. See early voting schedule for locations, dates and times.

March 29, 2005, 5 p.m.

File Campaign Contributions and Expenses (including In Kind Contributions and Expenses) **Report #1** (of 3) with City Clerk. (Reporting period begins January 1, 2005 to and including March 24, 2005. NRS 294A.120, NRS 294A.200, NRS 294A.360, NRS 294A.362.

March 29, 2005.

Last day for written requests for Absentee Ballots to be received by the City Clerk for Primary Election. NRS 293C.312.

April 1, 2005.

Last day for early voting for Primary Election. NRS 293C.3568.

April 5, 2005.

PRIMARY ELECTION. Las Vegas City Charter Sec. 5.010, NRS 293C.175.

April 11, 2005.

Special City Council Meeting to canvass and certify Primary Election. Las Vegas City Charter Sec. 5.100, NRS 293C.387.

April 14, 2005, 5 p.m.

Last day to demand recount. NRS 293.403.

April 20, 2005 City Council Meeting.

Seating of successful Primary Election candidates. Las Vegas City Charter Sec. 5.010, NRS 293C.387.

May 3, 2005.

Last day for organizations to notify the City Clerk of Absent Ballot Request card mailings for General Election if sending to more than 500 registered voters. NRS 293C.306.

May 8 to 17, 2005 (In-Office): Ten-day period for *in-office* registration or updates at your City Clerk's office.

Sunday, May 6 through Thursday, May 12
Las Vegas City Clerk's Office, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Extended Hours - Friday, May 13 through Tuesday, May 17
Las Vegas City Clerk's Office, 8 a.m. to 9 p.m.

May 9, 2005.

First day written voter registration challenges may be filed for General Election. NRS 293.547.

May 13, 2005.

Last day written voter registration challenges may be filed for General Election. NRS 293.547.

May 17, 2005.

Last day for organizations to mail Absent Ballot Request Card mailings for General Election if sending to more than 500 registered voters. NRS 293C.306.

May 21, 2005.

Early voting begins for General Election. NRS 293C.3568. See early voting schedule for locations, dates and times.

May 31, 2005.

File Campaign Contribution and Expenses (including In Kind Contributions and Expenses) **Report #2** (of 3) with City Clerk (Reporting period begins March 25, 2005 to and including May 26, 2005). NRS 294A.120, NRS 294A.200, NRS 294A.360, NRS 294A.362.

May 31, 2005.

Last day for written requests for Absentee Ballots to be received by the City Clerk for General Election. NRS 293C.312.

June 3, 2005.

Early voting ends for General Election. NRS 293C.3568.

June 7, 2005.

GENERAL ELECTION. Las Vegas City Charter Sec. 5.020, NRS 293C.140.

June 12, 2005, 5 p.m.

Last day to demand recount.

June 15, 2005.

Regular City Council Meeting to canvass and certify General Election. Las Vegas City Charter Sec. 5.100, NRS 293C.387.

June 15, 2005.

Last day to dispose of unspent contributions for candidates elected or defeated in Primary election. NRS 294A.160.

June 20, 2005, 5 p.m.

Last day to demand recount. NRS 293.403.

July 6, 2005 City Council Meeting

Seating of successful General Election candidates. Las Vegas City Charter Sec. 5.100, NRS 293C.387.

July 15, 2005, 5 p.m.

Campaign Contribution and Expenses (including In Kind Contributions and Expenses) **Report #3** (of 3) to be filed with City Clerk (Reporting period begins May 27, 2005 to and including June 30, 2005). NRS 294A.120, NRS 294A.200, NRS 294A.360, NRS 294A.362.

August 15, 2005.

Last day to dispose of unspent contributions for candidates elected or defeated in General election. NRS 294A.160.

REGULATIONS OF INTEREST

POLITICAL SIGN REGULATIONS

Local as well as state laws govern the use of campaign signs.

Title 19, the City of Las Vegas Zoning Code, requires that a political candidate running for office must obtain a sign permit prior to erecting any political signs. The City currently requires only one application for the total number of signs a candidate wishes to display.

Sign permits may be obtained through the City of Las Vegas Building and Safety Department located at the Development Services Center, 731 South 4th Street. The permit fee is \$25.00.

If you have any questions concerning the Title 19 political campaign sign requirements, please contact the Planning and Development Department at (702) 229-6301, TTY (702) 386-9108.

HANDBILL REGULATIONS

Las Vegas Municipal Code 6.42 regulates the distribution and posting of commercial and non-commercial handbills within the City of Las Vegas.

Note: A Handbill and Oral Solicitation License is not required to mail flyers, brochures or other campaign material or for appearances at personal information booths at a trade show.

For those activities as outlined in Las Vegas Municipal Code 6.42 that indicate a business license is required, additional information can be obtained by contacting the City of Las Vegas Department of Finance and Business Services, Business Services Division at (702) 229-6281, TTY (702) 386-9108 or by visiting their office at 400 Stewart Ave., Third Floor, Las Vegas, Nevada, 89101. Applications for Handbill and Oral Solicitation business licenses must be submitted no less than 10 days prior to the commencement of distribution and/or posting with fees of \$130 (\$30 processing fee plus \$100 license fee).

ELECTIONEERING/CAMPAIGNING

Nevada Revised Statutes sections 293C.3572, 293C.361 and 293.740 govern campaigning and electioneering. The rules differ for early voting and Election Day:

Early Voting:

- If the voting site is located on PRIVATE PROPERTY (mall, supermarket, etc.), no one may electioneer on the owner's property without the owner's permission (NRS 293C.3572).
- If the voting site is located on PUBLIC PROPERTY, no one may electioneer within 100 feet of the voting area (NRS 293C.361)

Election Day:

- No one may electioneer within 100 feet of the entrance to the building or structure in which a polling place is located (NRS 293.740)

Definition: NRS 293.740 defines electioneering as campaigning for or against a candidate, ballot question or political party by:

- Posting signs.
- Distributing literature.
- Using loudspeakers.
- Buying, selling, wearing or displaying any badge, button or other insignia. A person may wear political insignia while voting only if he or she is reasonably unable to remove or cover it.
- Polling or otherwise soliciting from a voter information as to how the voter intends to vote or has voted.
- Soliciting signatures for any kind of petition.

HOW TO REPORT THE MONEY

CAMPAIGN ACCOUNTS

Every candidate for state, district, county, city or township office shall open and maintain a separate account in a financial institution for the deposit of any campaign contributions, within one week of receiving a minimum of \$100.00. The candidate shall not commingle the money in the account with money collected for other purposes. Candidates for judicial office should be aware that the Nevada Supreme Court Rules also address this issue. (NRS 294A.130)

STATE OF NEVADA CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS& EXPENSES/IN KIND REPORTS – Filed with the City Clerk

In accordance with NRS 294A.360, every candidate for city office at an election shall comply with campaign contributions and expenses reporting. Every candidate must file both reports even though he or she: (1) withdraws his or her candidacy; (2) receives no campaign contributions; (3) has no expenses; (4) loses the election; (5) his or her name does not appear on the election ballot; (6) does not file a declaration of candidacy, but is a candidate as defined in NRS 294A.005 because he or she has received campaign contributions in excess of \$100; or (7) he or she did not receive contributions nor expend any funds (less the filing fee), NRS 294A.350 (1). Additionally, pursuant to NRS 294A.362, in kind contributions must be reported separately. A form is available with the Contribution and Expenses Report Form for that purpose.

If a candidate withdraws they may file both required reports at one time with the appropriate filing officer (NRS 294A.350; NAC 294A.045).

You must file your Nevada Contributions and Expenses Reports with the Las Vegas City Clerk (294A.360 (4)). Instructions and the Campaign Contributions and Expenses Report Forms will be provided with the filing packet. They may also be accessed by using the City's Election website at www.lasvegasnevada.gov/Election2005 or call the City Clerk's Office at (702) 229-6311, TTY (702) 386-9108. To meet the filing requirements, the City Clerk must receive the documents containing the candidate's original signature. If sent by certified mail, the date mailed is the date filed. The report may be sent by regular mail, however, the date received by the City Clerk is the date deemed filed, not the date mailed.

The due dates for contributions and expenses reports are:

Report #1 — Due March 29, 2005

Period: January 1, 2005 — March 24, 2005

Report #2 — Due May 31, 2005

Period: March 25, 2005 — May 26, 2005

Report #3 Due — July 15, 2005

Period: May 27, 2005 — June 30, 2005

Note: Candidates for judicial office in Nevada are subject to special contribution and unspent contribution restrictions as well as special financial disclosure regulations as set forth in The Canons of the Nevada Supreme Court Rules (Canon 4I (2) (b) Compensation, Reimbursement and Reporting).

DEFINITIONS

For your assistance, a portion of the following definitions have been taken from the Secretary of State's *Campaign Guide 2004*:

Contribution Defined

"Contribution" means a gift, loan, conveyance, deposit, and payment, transfer or distribution of money or of anything of value other than the services of a volunteer (NRS 294A.007).

Campaign Expenses and Expenditures Defined

"Campaign Expenses and Expenditures" are those expenditures made for advertising on television, radio, billboards, and posters and in newspapers; and all other expenditures made to advocate expressly the election or defeat of a clearly identified candidate or group of candidates or the passage or defeat of a clearly identified question or group of questions on the ballot (NRS 294A.004).

Contributions Made In The Name of Another Person Prohibited

A person shall not make or assist in making a contribution in the name of another person. Accepting a contribution made by a person in the name of another person is prohibited (NRS 294A.112).

Campaign Contribution Limits

A person shall not make a contribution for any office, except a federal office, in an amount that exceeds \$5,000 for the primary election or primary city election, and \$5,000 for the general election or general city election, regardless of the number of candidates for the office. There are no constitutional or statutory limits of contributions made to groups such as political parties, committees sponsored by political parties or committees for political action. (NRS 294A.009; 294A.100 & 294A.160)

Every candidate for a state, district, county, city or township office who is defeated at a primary or primary city election and received a contribution from a person in excess of \$5,000 shall, not later than the 15th day of the second month after his or her defeat, return any money in excess of \$5,000 to the contributor. (NRS 294A.160)

Anonymous Contributions

A candidate who receives a contribution of \$100 or more from an anonymous or unidentifiable contributor shall, within 10 days after receiving the contribution, deliver the money to the state treasurer or donate it to a nonprofit entity (NRS 294A.190).

In Kind Contributions

The value of services provided in kind for which money would have otherwise been paid, such as paid polling and resulting data, paid direct mail, paid solicitation by telephone, any paid paraphernalia that was printed or otherwise produced to promote a campaign and the use of paid personnel to assist in the campaign. In kind contributions must be reported. (NRS 294A.007; 294A.362)

Personal Use of Campaign Funds

It is unlawful for a candidate to spend money received as a campaign contribution for his or her personal use. (NRS 294A.160) AGO 2002-23

Contributions In Excess of \$10,000 Report

Every candidate who receives contributions in excess of \$10,000 in any year before the year of an election is required to file a Contributions and Expenses Report for that year and every year thereafter up to the election. The report must be filed with the appropriate filing officer on or before January 15 of the year immediately after the year for which the report is made. Each year thereafter before the election year the candidate must file by January 15 with the appropriate filing officer, a report of all contributions received and expenditures made in that year. (NRS 294A.125)

Disposition of Unspent Contributions Report

Candidates who are elected or defeated, or who withdraw from a race, must file a Contributions & Expenses Report which shows how any remaining funds were disposed of with their appropriate filing officer. State law specifically limits the manner in which unspent contributions may be disposed (NRS 294A.160).

NEVADA STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE – Filed with the Secretary of State

Nevada law requires a candidate for public office to file an original Statement of Financial Disclosure with the Secretary of State. This statement is due 10 days after the last day to file a declaration of candidacy (NRS 281.561). Forms will be provided in the candidate filing packet and the Secretary of State may be contacted directly for further details. See Important Dates for Candidates for specific information on this filing.

Remember: A candidate for public office or public officer who fails to file a Financial Disclosure Statement in a timely manner pursuant to NRS 281.561 is subject to a civil penalty and payment of court costs and attorney's fees. Knowingly filing a Financial Disclosure Statement containing false or misleading information is a gross misdemeanor (NRS 197.130).

We suggest you make a copy of your completed original form. Mail your original form to the Commission by certified mail, return receipt requested, to provide you with mailing documentation for your records. The copy should be retained for your file.

Note: Candidates for judicial office in Nevada are subject to special contribution and unspent contribution restrictions as well as special financial disclosure regulations as set forth in The Canons of the Nevada Supreme Court Rules (Canon 4I (2) (b) Compensation, Reimbursement and Reporting).

OTHER INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

CODE OF FAIR CAMPAIGN PRACTICES

The Code of Fair Campaign Practices is a voluntary code to which a candidate may subscribe. It states certain principles by which a fair, ethical campaign should be run. A candidate who subscribes to the code may indicate so on his or her campaign literature. A copy of the Code of Fair Campaign Practices is given to each candidate at the time of filing. (NRS 294A.290)

ELECTION NIGHT TABULATION

After the polls close at 7 p.m. on Election Day, the results are brought to the central tabulation facility (Clark County Election Center, 965 Trade Dr., North Las Vegas) for processing. They are tabulated along with early voting and mail ballot results. You may access unofficial election results on the internet beginning shortly after the polls close. You can find links to the election results from the City website at www.lasvegasnevada.gov/Election2005 or the Clark County website at www.co.clark.nv.us/election/home.asp.

LANGUAGE MINORITY PROVISIONS OF THE VOTING RIGHTS ACT (BILINGUAL ELECTION MATERIALS)

What is Section 203 of the Voting Rights Act?

When Congress amended the Voting Rights Act in 1975 by adding Section 203, it found that "through the use of various practices and procedures, citizens of language minorities have been effectively excluded from participation in the electoral process.....The Congress declares that, in order to enforce the guarantees of the fourteenth and fifteenth amendments to the United States Constitution, it is necessary to eliminate such discrimination by prohibiting these practices."

Section 203 provides: "Whenever any State or political subdivision provides registration or voting notices, forms, instructions, assistance, or other materials or information relating to the electoral process, including ballots, it shall provide them in the language of the applicable minority group as well as the English language."

What jurisdictions are covered under Section 203?

The law covers those localities where there are more than 10,000 or over 5 percent of the total voting age citizens in a single political subdivision who are members of a single minority language group, have depressed literacy rates, and do not speak English very well. Determinations are based on data from the most recent Census, and the Director of the Census makes the determinations.

Is the City of Las Vegas Included?

Yes. Clark County is a Covered Area for Voting Rights Bilingual Election Materials for the Hispanic Group. As the City of Las Vegas is located within Clark County, Las Vegas has the legal obligation to provide minority language assistance under Section 203 of the Voting Rights Act.

CITY COUNCIL: MAYOR OSCAR B. GOODMAN - MAYOR PRO TEM GARY REESE
LARRY BROWN - LAWRENCE WEEKLY - MICHAEL MACK
JANET MONCRIEF - STEVE WOLFSON
CITY MANAGER – DOUG SELBY